

Internet Fraud Complaint Center Wins Excellence.Gov Award

RICHMOND, VA — February 6, 2002 — The Internet Fraud Complaint Center, a partnership between the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C), was recently honored with the Excellence.Gov award. The Excellence.Gov award is presented to federal government agencies that demonstrate innovative electronic government initiatives. Sponsored by the Industry Advisory Council, E-Gov, and the Federal Chief Information Officers Council, the award was presented to five government agencies during the recent E-Gov E-Procurement Conference in Washington, D.C.

A panel of judges comprised of representatives from government and industry selected 25 finalists from more than 125 entries based on the following criteria:

- Extent of the project's impact
- How the project saved resources or increased productivity
- Project's ability to simplify and/or unify processes
- Repeatability for other government agencies

The Internet Fraud Complaint Center (IFCC) was singled out for its progress on the fraud frontline and its efforts in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Created as a resource for law enforcement by law enforcement, the IFCC provides a single point of contact for consumers and businesses to file a fraud complaint and get the information into the hands of proper enforcement authorities. The number of complaints to the IFCC is rising rapidly. From May 2000 to April 2001, the number of filings increased by 64 percent. With the IFCC's recent role in collecting terrorist tips for the FBI, the activity to its Web site has soared and fraud complaints are expected to show a dramatic increase.

"We anticipate the number of complaints to rise from 1,000 a week to 1,000 a day," said Dennis M. Lormel, Section Chief, Financial Crimes Section, Criminal Investigative Division of the FBI. "We know more Internet crime is out there, it's just a matter of victims knowing where to go to report it and then actually reporting it." A data trend report recapping victimization filings for 2001 is expected to be available in print and electronic format in March.

Following the events of September 11, 2001, the IFCC Web site was designated as the single on-line portal for the public to report terrorist information. The IFCC continues to receive information. Since the IFCC was called on by the U.S. Justice Department to act in this highly specialized capacity, the IFCC Web site has performed flawlessly collecting over 155,000 leads. "We are proud of the IFCC's performance and grateful to both the public and private sector

organizations that have supported us in this expanded mission," said Richard Johnston, Director of the NW3C.

About the Internet Fraud Complaint Center (IFCC)

The IFCC is a partnership between the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the National White Collar Crime Center and began operating in May 2000. The IFCC Web site is located at www.ifccfbi.gov